

With that in mind, I want to alert my colleagues to an extraordinarily good-news story from right in my home State of Michigan. There, experts at the University of Michigan's CS Mott Children's Hospital, recently broke important new ground in treating a rare but life-threatening condition, and made an enormous difference in the lives of one little boy and his family.

At just 3 months old, Kaiba Gionfriddo's life was in danger. The Ohio baby was threatened by an unusual weakening of the wall of his bronchus, the passage leading to his lungs. His condition caused him to stop breathing, and his physicians worried that the condition would prove fatal. But they knew that doctors and engineers at the University of Michigan were working to develop a new treatment that offered hope.

At UM, pediatrician Dr. Glenn Green and biomechanical engineering professor Scott Hollister were working on a groundbreaking procedure. Alerted to young Kaiba's condition, they went to work. Kaiba was airlifted from his Ohio hospital to Ann Arbor, and the UM team went to work.

Their ingenious idea combined several important technologies. They used high-resolution imaging to create a detailed picture of Kaiba's airway. Through computer-aided design techniques and the use of a three-dimensional printer, they created a customized tracheal splint to support the weakened walls of his bronchus and allow him to breathe. And they fashioned this device out of a bioresorbable polymer that will be absorbed by Kaiba's body by the age of four, after it has given his body time to form a stronger breathing passage.

There are many heroes in this story: Kaiba's parents, who moved heaven and earth for their son while dealing with the fear that they might lose him; the Ohio physicians who searched for solutions to a difficult case; of course, Dr. Green and Professor Hollister and their team at UM; and, not to be forgotten, the countless researchers, engineers, and developers who put remarkable technological tools such as high-resolution imaging, computer-aided design, and 3D printing in the hands of the UM experts. A year after his procedure, Kaiba's mother April says her son is doing well. "He's getting himself into trouble nowadays," she said in a newspaper interview. "He scoots across the floor and gets into everything."

It's a remarkable story—but every day, countless Americans are engaged in similar efforts to help loved ones, neighbors, patients, even total strangers they will never know or meet. The combination of remarkable ingenuity and public spirit are defining characteristics of our Nation, and so long as they remain, there is nothing Americans cannot accomplish. As we focus on the problems we need to solve and the challenges we face and the flood of negative and discouraging news, I hope we will also keep in mind the remarkable

good news that also happens every day and take inspiration from it.

TRIBUTE TO HOWARD BOKSENBAUM

Mr. REED. Mr. President, today I pay tribute to an exceptional library advocate and public servant in Rhode Island, Howard Boksenbaum, who is retiring from his position as the State's chief library officer after a long and distinguished career.

Howard graduated with a linguistics degree from Washington University in St. Louis and Waseda University in Tokyo, earned a master's degree in library and information science from the University of Pittsburgh, and started his career working at various library positions in Pennsylvania before moving to Rhode Island.

His service to Rhode Island libraries began nearly 34 years ago at the Island Interrelated Library System, which, at the time, was one of five regional library systems in the State. In 1988, he joined the State's Department of State Library Services, which later became the Office of Library and Information Services, OLIS. After serving in various capacities within these agencies, and as assistant director for Central Information Management Services at the Rhode Island Division of Information Technology, Howard became the state's chief library officer in 2007.

During his more than three decades working for Rhode Island libraries and the State's library agency, Howard helped improve Rhode Island's libraries in many important ways. His focus on and passion for technology brought our State's libraries further into the digital age. He worked to consolidate Rhode Island's regional library networks into a single statewide system and created Ocean State Free-Net, a public access computer network. He also played a major role in other statewide technology initiatives, including working on the state's website launch and helping to establish the statewide public safety communication network, RISCON. Howard was also part of the Rhode Island Library Association and the Coalition for Library Advocates.

His view of the importance of libraries to our citizens, to our communities, and to our Nation can be found in a quote of his soon after he became chief library officer:

A library is bigger than the web because it includes it, bigger than its users because they grow there. Unlike a school, a library is elective, unlike a store, a library belongs to its users, unlike the World Wide Web, a library is people, is history, is culture, is connection. A library is the past and the present and will be changing again to be the future.

Rhode Islanders have been fortunate to have Howard devote more than three decades of service to the state and its libraries, and especially for the past 6 years he served as chief library officer. I have also had the benefit of his knowledge and insights about libraries, and worked with him on legislative ini-

tiatives to enhance federal support for libraries.

I would also like to recognize Howard's wife Judith Stokes and his three daughters Anna, Martha, and Emily. I join many others in the State in thanking Howard for his dedication and service to our State's libraries, and I ask my colleagues to join us in commending Howard Boksenbaum on his long and accomplished career. I wish him fulfillment and continued success in his future endeavors.

COMMENDING JOHN LEWIS

Mr. CHAMBLISS. Mr. President, I rise today to commemorate the life and legacy of Congressman JOHN ROBERT LEWIS of Georgia, and recognize the 50th anniversary of his chairmanship of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee.

JOHN LEWIS grew up during the heart of segregation, born as the son of sharecroppers and attending segregated schools in Pike County, AL. At a young age, he became inspired by Martin Luther King, Jr. and Rosa Parks, and decided that he too, would fight for equal rights guaranteed to all by the Constitution of the United States.

JOHN attended Fisk University, where he began his civil rights activism by organizing a sit-in at segregated lunch counters in Nashville, TN. He later became one of the original 13 Freedom Riders, bravely challenging segregation at interstate bus terminals throughout the South.

In 1963, JOHN LEWIS was elected as chairman of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee, which we are here to recognize today. He helped found this organization, which encouraged students to get involved in the civil rights movement and played a key role in the struggle to end legalized racial discrimination and segregation.

By the age of 23, he was recognized as one of the "Big Six" leaders of the civil rights movement, planning and participating as the youngest speaker at the historic March on Washington in August 1963.

He remains the last remaining speaker from this march.

He continued his work, organizing the Mississippi Freedom Summer, a campaign to register black voters and expose students around the country to the perils and conditions in the South. Knowing what lay ahead, he risked his life to lead over 600 marchers across the Edmund Pettus Bridge in Selma, AL, only to be brutally attacked by Selma police officers. This massacre became known as Bloody Sunday, during which JOHN's skull was fractured.

He still bears the scars today.

JOHN remained chairman of the SNCC until 1966, and then continued his commitment to the civil rights movement as associate director of the Field Foundation and in various voter registration programs. Even after more than 40 arrests during his peaceful protests, JOHN LEWIS never gave up on his cause.